

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION
(PCT Rule 61.2)

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 24 January 2001 (24.01.01)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/02252	Applicant's or agent's file reference PAT 99007*PC
International filing date (day/month/year) 09 June 2000 (09.06.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 10 June 1999 (10.06.99)
Applicant LEWIS, Ian, David	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

 in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

09 December 2000 (09.12.00)

 in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election was was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Pascal Piriou Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------

Best Available Copy

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

JONES,Kendra
NOKIA IPR DEPARTMENT
Nokia House, Summit Avenue
Southwood
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Hampshire GU14 0NG
GRANDE BRETAGNE

Prior Report
 Diary

2 8 SEP 2001

Renewal Record
 Citations
 Inv Award

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Letter

Date of mailing

(day/month/year) 26.09.2001

Applicant's or agent's file reference
PAT 99007*PCT

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/GB00/02252

International filing date (day/month/year)
09/06/2000

Priority date (day/month/year)
10/06/1999

Applicant
NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LIMITED et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/

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14
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

REC'D	28 SEP 2001
WIPO	PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PAT 99007*PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/GB00/02252	International filing date (day/month/year) 09/06/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 10/06/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G02F1/13			
Applicant NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LIMITED et al.			

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 09/12/2000	Date of completion of this report 26.09.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority: European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Hauser, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2259



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02252

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):
Description, pages:

1-12 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-26 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/02252

the drawings, sheets:

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

the entire international application.

claims Nos. 22-26.

because:

the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):

the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 22-26 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):
see separate sheet

the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. .

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 10-13,15-17,19-21

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02252

	No:	Claims	1-9,14,18
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	10-13,15-17,19-21
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-21
	No:	Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet**

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Re Item III

- 1 Claims 22–26 contain references to the drawings. According to Rule 6.2(a) PCT (see also PCT Guidelines III-4.10), claims should not contain such references except where absolutely necessary, which is not the case here. Since it is not clear which features these claims comprise, the examiner is not in a position to examine the subject-matter of these claims.

Re Item V

- 2 The documents cited in the international search report will be named D1–D5.
- 2.1 The document D6 (EP 0 731 372) was not cited in the international search report. A copy of the document is appended hereto.
- 3 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(2) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1–9, 14, and 18, insofar as the claims can be understood (see section VIII), is not novel over the disclosure of D1 (WO 8707037).
 - 3.1 The reason for this is that document D1 discloses, mainly in figure 1 and the corresponding description (the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5), and claim 1, a display module with a display device comprising a liquid crystal display comprising first and second liquid crystal cells ("LCD-Platten" 11, 12) positioned along a first axis of the display device (see figure 1); a first display driver ("Treiberstufen 16"; see figure 1: element 16 on the right hand side) for driving the first liquid crystal cell 11; a second display driver (see figure 1: element 16 on the left hand side) for driving the second liquid crystal cell 12.
 - 3.2 Figure 6 of document D1 also shows a display module with a display device (see also the corresponding description in the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8) comprising a liquid crystal display comprising first and second liquid crystal cells ("LCD-Platten 50 und 51") positioned along a first axis of the display device ("nebeneinander angeordnet[e]"); a first display driver ("Treiberstufen 16") for

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02252

driving the first liquid crystal cell 50; a second display driver ("Treiberstufen 54") for driving the second liquid crystal cell 51.

- 3.3 Since the modules of document D1 are suitable for displaying information (see abstract), the control circuit of the display device ("nicht dargestellte elektronische Steuersetzung"; claim 1: "LCD-Platten, deren Anzeigeelemente über Treiberstufen mit einer elektronischen Steuersetzung verbunden sind"; page 1, last paragraph: "Treiberstufen ... und ... ein Mikrocomputer") must be suitable for synchronising the drivers. Means for synchronising the drivers are therefore considered implicitly disclosed. The paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 that the device comprises a connector ("Anschlußstecker") for connecting the display circuitry to an external element.
- 3.4 Since the features of claims 1, 9 and 18 are anticipated by corresponding features of the device of document D1, the subject-matter of these claims is not novel.
- 3.5 Furthermore, document D3 (US 5 703 616) discloses, mainly in figure 2 (see also the corresponding description in column 3, line 56 to column 5, line 7), a similar display module comprising a display device with liquid crystal display sections 12a-d symmetrically positioned along a bisecting axis extending along the larger dimension of the display (vertical in figure 2), and corresponding drivers "SEG1-4" arranged at opposed sides of the LCDs along that axis, for driving the LCD sections, and means for synchronising the drivers ("liquid crystal timing controller (LCTC) 32"). Figure 2 shows that the sections of the "LCD Panel" also symmetrically arranged with respect to a bisector perpendicular to the first axis and that the display driver circuitry of the "LCD Panel" is connected to external elements (e.g. 24, 45). A connector is therefore considered implicitly disclosed. It is also clear that the display device comprises some kind of power control circuitry.
- 3.6 Since the features of claims 1-9, 14, and 18, insofar as these claims can be understood (see section VIII), are anticipated by corresponding features of the device of document D3, the subject-matter of these claims is not novel.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02252

- 4 Dependent claims 10–13, 15–17, and 19–21, do not contain any features (see section VIII) which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refers, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step for the following reasons.
 - 4.1 The further features of claims 10–13 and their technical effects are *per se* well known in the art, such that a skilled person would regard it as a normal design option to include these features in the devices of documents D1 or D3 in order to achieve the desired effects. The subject-matter of claims 10–13 is therefore considered not to involve an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).
 - 4.2 Similar arguments apply to the use of flexible printed circuit foils for supporting and connecting the elements of the LC display device (claims 15–17), which is also considered a normal design option known in the art, for example, from document D6 (EP 0 731 372; see, for example, lines 9–19 of column 1). Using the above discussed display devices/modules in a portable/radio communications device or in a radio telephone (claims 19–21) is common practice (see, for example, lines 7–10, column 3 of document D6). Hence, the subject-matter of claims 15–17, and 19–21, is considered to lack an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

Re Item VII

- 5 Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1 and D3 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.
- 6 The features of the claim/s are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).

Re Item VIII

7 The application does not meet the criteria of Article 6 PCT, since claim 1 is not clear for the following reasons.

7.1 Although the acronyms "LCD" and "FPC" are used like reference signs in claims 1 and 13, respectively, they are also used to refer to features throughout the set of claims, which is confusing.

7.2 Since the orientation of the liquid crystal display is undefined, the expressions "height" and "width" of the LCD (claims 3 and 4) are substantially meaningless.

7.3 The meaning of the expression "symmetrical about a bisector" as used in claims 5 and 6 is not clear. Moreover, figure 2, for example, shows that the "support frame 24", which is part of the display device, is asymmetric.

7.4 The meaning of the expression "intermediate element" found in claims 9–14 is obscure. It is not clear to which structural feature this expression is intended to refer, since it is not used in the description of the embodiments. It seems therefore that the claims lack support by the description. Moreover, the expression cannot be used to distinguish the subject-matter of the claims from the prior art, since its meaning is vague.

7.4.1 Although it can only be guessed that the "FPC foil connector 26" mentioned in the description of figure 2 is meant to be referred to by the expression "flexible printed circuit (FPC) foil" in claim 13, the claim will be interpreted accordingly.

7.5 Although claims 1–9 define display **devices**, claims 15 and 18 refer to the "arrangements" as claimed in any preceding claim.

7.6 The statements in the lines 5–16 on page 12 render the claims unclear as a whole (PCT Guidelines III–4.3a).

PCT REQUEST

Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 09.06.2000 12:39:01 PM

0-1	For receiving Office use only International Application No.	
0-2	International Filing Date	
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	
0-4 0-4-1	Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request Prepared using	PCT-EASY Version 2.90 (updated 08.03.2000)
0-5	Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)	United Kingdom Patent Office (RO/GB)
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference	PAT 99007*PC
I	Title of invention	A DISPLAY DEVICE
II	Applicant II-1 This person is: II-2 Applicant for II-4 Name II-5 Address:	applicant only all designated States except US NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LIMITED KEILALAHDENTIE 4 FIN-02150 ESPOO Finland FI FI
II-6	State of nationality	FI
II-7	State of residence	FI
II-8	Telephone No.	+358 24 3061
II-9	Faxsimile No.	+358 24 3064 544
III-1	Applicant and/or inventor III-1-1 This person is: III-1-2 Applicant for III-1-4 Name (LAST, First) III-1-5 Address:	applicant and inventor US only LEWIS, Ian, David 7 Spencer Close Church Crookham Fleet, Hampshire GU13 0EG United Kingdom GB GB
III-1-6	State of nationality	GB
III-1-7	State of residence	GB

PCT REQUEST

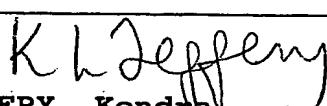
Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 09.06.2000 12:39:01 PM

IV-1	Agent or common representative; or address for correspondence The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: Name (LAST, First) Address:	agent JEFFERY, Kendra NOKIA IPR DEPARTMENT Nokia House Summit Avenue Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0NG United Kingdom 01252 865000 01252 865080
IV-1-3	Telephone No.	
IV-1-4	Facsimile No.	
IV-2	Additional agent(s)	additional agent(s) with same address as first named agent
IV-2-1	Name(s)	HIBBERT, Juliet; HAWS, Helen, Louise; HIGGIN, Paul; MUIR, Henry; FRAIN, Timothy
V	Designation of States	
V-1	Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	AP: GH GM KE LS MW SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT EA: AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT EP: AT BE CH&LI CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT OA: BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT
V-2	National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	AE AG AL AM AT (patent and utility model) AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH&LI CN CR CU CZ (patent and utility model) DE (patent and utility model) DK (patent and utility model) DM DZ EE (patent and utility model) ES FI (patent and utility model) GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR (patent and utility model) KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK (patent and utility model) SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW

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V-5	Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under Items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under Item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit.	
V-6	Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations NONE	
VI-1	Priority claim of earlier national application Filing date 10 June 1999 (10.06.1999) Number 9913538.6 Country GB	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen European Patent Office (EPO) (ISA/EP)	
VIII	Check list	
VIII-1	Request	number of sheets 4 electronic file(s) attached -
VIII-2	Description	11 -
VIII-3	Claims	4 -
VIII-4	Abstract	1 p99007pct.txt
VIII-5	Drawings	10 -
VIII-7	TOTAL	30
VIII-8	Accompanying items paper document(s) attached electronic file(s) attached Fee calculation sheet ✓ -	
VIII-12	Priority document(s) Item(s) VI-1 -	
VIII-16	PCT-EASY diskette - diskette	
VIII-18	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract 6a	
VIII-19	Language of filing of the International application English	
IX-1	Signature of applicant or agent 	
IX-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	JEFFERY, Kendra

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported International application	
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported International application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	

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PAT 99007*PC

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10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/EP
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau
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(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
21 December 2000 (21.12.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
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(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G02F 1/13, G09G 3/36, H04N 5/74

(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/02252

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(25) Filing Language: English

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(30) Priority Data:
9913538.6 10 June 1999 (10.06.1999) GB

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(72) Inventor; and

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(74) Agents: JEFFERY, Kendra et al.; Nokia IPR Dept., Nokia House, Summit Avenue, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0NG (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AT (utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, CZ (utility model), DE, DE (utility model), DK, DK (utility model), DM, DZ, EE, EE (utility model), ES, FI, FI (utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KR (utility model), KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

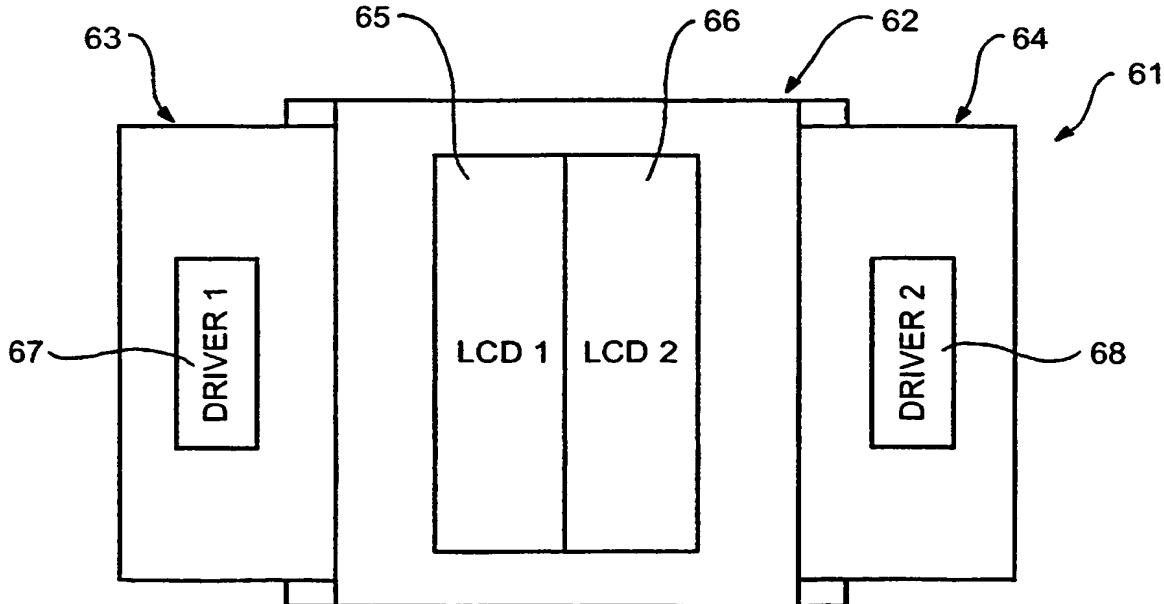
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 18 October 2001

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A DISPLAY DEVICE



WO 00/77560 A3

(57) Abstract: A display device (61) is disclosed which comprises a liquid crystal display (LCD) having first and second liquid crystal cells (65, 66) positioned along a first axis of the display device (61). The display device further comprises a first display driver (67) for driving the first liquid crystal cell (65), a second display driver (68) for driving the second liquid crystal cell (66), and means for synchronising the drivers (67, 68).



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. Jnl Application No

PCT/GB 00/02252

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G02F1/13 G09G3/36 H04N5/74

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G02F G09G H04N G09F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 87 07037 A (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT) 19 November 1987 (1987-11-19) page 2, paragraph 4 -page 3, paragraph 1 page 6, paragraph 3 -page 7, paragraph 1; figures 1-6	1, 9, 10, 18, 19, 22-25
Y	---	2-8, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 26
A	---	13, 15-17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 May 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/05/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA
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Authorized officer

Manntz, W

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l. Application No

PCT/GB 00/02252

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 841 431 A (SIMMERS CHARLES RUSSELL) 24 November 1998 (1998-11-24) column 1, line 10 - line 21 column 1, line 46 -column 2, line 4 column 5, line 7 - line 43 column 6, line 20 -column 7, line 21; figures 2-6 ---	2-8,11, 12,14, 20,21,26
A	US 5 703 616 A (KAWASUGI KAZUHIRO) 30 December 1997 (1997-12-30) column 1, line 38 -column 2, line 37 column 10, line 55 - line 66; figures 1,2 ---	1-26
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